



MICHIGAN SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION
620 South Capitol Avenue, Suite 320A
Lansing, Michigan 48933



MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE
2133 University Park Drive, Suite 200
Okemos, Michigan 48864

April 17, 2013

The Honorable Kurt Heise
Chairman, Criminal Justice Committee
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, Michigan 48909

RE: OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL (HB) 4455

Dear Chairman Heise and Members of the House Criminal Justice Committee:

We write with serious concerns about House Bill 4455 being sponsored by Representative Tom McMillin. This bill aims to regulate the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in the state of Michigan. While we appreciate and share the bill sponsor's concern for the privacy of our citizens and protecting their rights, this bill places unnecessary, duplicative, and exhaustive regulations on law enforcement agencies.

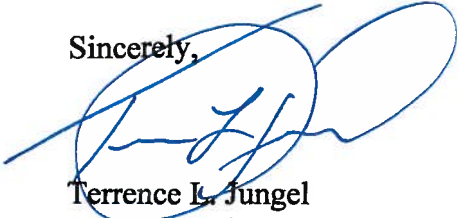
House Bill 4455 seeks extensive reporting requirements for agencies that use UAVs for any number of reasons. These reporting requirements would be in addition to the already complex reporting that is required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to operate an UAV device. In addition to being a Headlee constitutional violation, it is a repetitive and redundant requirement and places additional burdens on agencies that are already dealing with diminished budgets.

This piece of legislation focuses solely on emergency circumstances where there is an imminent threat before a UAV can be used. Unfortunately, this extremely limiting language prevents an UAV to be used for operational, safety, and potentially, dangerous situations. Law enforcement agencies across the state could use these pieces of technology for search and rescue missions, disaster response, hazardous spills, post incident crime scene investigation and documentation, active shooter situations, department training, and life preservation missions.

This bill needs extensive revision of the current language and the input of all the state departments that would find this emerging technology beneficial before moving forward.

Thank you for your time. Please do not hesitate to contact our organizations in regards to this piece of legislation as well as any other law enforcement issue in the state of Michigan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terrence L. Jungel", written over a circular blue ink stamp.

Terrence L. Jungel
Executive Director
Michigan Sheriffs' Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert M. Stevenson", written in a cursive style.

Robert M. Stevenson
Executive Director
Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police

TLJ/RMS:ad